

REMARKS

The claims now pending in the application are Claims 1 to 18 and 26, the independent claims being Claims 1, 8, 10, 14 and 26. Claims 19 to 25 have been cancelled pursuant to a restriction requirement. Claims 1, 7, 8, 10 and 14 have been amended. Claim 26 is newly presented.

In the Official Action dated December 10, 2003, the title was objected to on formal grounds. Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,157,107 (Aoshima). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection and rejection respectfully are requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Initially, Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication that the application contains allowable subject matter, and that Claims 1 to 18 are allowed.

In this regard, Claims 1, 7, 8, 10 and 14 have been amended to improve their form; Applicant submits that the proposed amendments do not narrow the scope of the claims. Support for the proposed amendments may be found in the original application. No new matter has been added.

The rejection of Claim 19 over the cited art respectfully is traversed. Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejections, Claim 19 has been cancelled herein to advance prosecution of the application to issue.

Newly presented Claim 26 has been added to provide Applicant with an additional scope of protection commensurate with the disclosure. Support for the proposed amendments may be found in the original application. No new matter has been added.

The present invention relates to a novel motor having a hollow columnar shape. In one aspect, as recited in newly presented independent Claim 26, the motor comprises a cylindrical magnet of which an outer circumferential surface is divided into portions in a circumferential direction, which portions are alternately magnetized to different poles, a stator which is made of a magnetic material and has an outer cylinder and an inner cylinder, a coil which is located at a position between the outer cylinder and the inner cylinder in the axial direction of the magnet and excites the outer cylinder and inner cylinder, and an output portion mounted on the magnet, which moves circularly. The outer cylinder has at least an outer magnetic pole portion which is formed by providing a gap portion of the cylinder from a distal end in an axial direction of the magnet and opposes the outer surface of the magnet, and the inner cylinder opposes the inner surface of the magnet.

Applicant submits that the prior art fails to anticipate the present invention. Moreover, Applicant submits that there are differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art, such that the subject matter taken as a whole would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

The Aoshima '107 patent relates to a motor with magnetic stator poles inside and outside the rotor magnet, and discloses a motor including a rotor having a permanent magnet circumferentially equally divided and alternately magnetized to different poles into a cylindrical shape. However, Applicant submits that the Aoshima '107 patent fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-described features of the present invention. In particular, the Aoshima '107 patent discloses an output portion (shaft 7) that rotates about an axis. Nowhere is the Aoshima '107 patent understood to disclose or suggest a motor

having a hollow columnar shape, where an output portion thereof rotates by moving circularly, as disclosed and claimed in the present application (Claim 26).


For the above reasons, Applicant submits that independent Claim 26 is allowable over the cited art.

In formal matters, Applicant has proposed a new title which describes more clearly the claimed invention, as suggested by the Examiner.

Applicant believes that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action, and submits that the application is in allowable form. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the present application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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